



U.S. – Ireland Trade Summary

6 October 2009

Background

U.S. companies have been particularly important to the growth of industry in Ireland, providing new technology, export capabilities, and employment opportunities. As of year-end 2008, U.S. direct investment in Ireland reached \$146.2 billion, more than the U.S. total for China, India, Russia, and Brazil combined. Currently about six hundred subsidiaries of U.S. multinationals exist in Ireland, employing around 100,000 people and spanning activities from manufacturing of high-tech electronics, computer products and services, medical devices, and pharmaceuticals to retailing, banking, finance, and other professional services. In more recent years, Ireland has also become an important headquarters base for Europe, the Middle East and Africa (“EMEA”) as well as research and development (R&D) center for U.S. firms in the European Union (EU).

Many U.S. businesses find Ireland an attractive location for the EU market – since it is inside the EU customs area and uses the Euro. From this Eurozone base, each year U.S. firms account for over half of Ireland's total exports and imports. Other reasons for Ireland's attractiveness include:

- a attractively low 12.5% corporate tax rate for domestic and foreign firms;
- the quality and flexibility of the English-speaking work force; and
- generally harmonious labor relations, political stability, pro-business government policies, a transparent judicial system, and the pulling power of existing companies operating successfully in Ireland (a "clustering" effect).

Summary

Economic and trade ties are an important facet of overall U.S. – Irish relations. In 2008, U.S. exports to Ireland were valued at \$8.6 billion, while U.S. Department of Commerce figures indicate that Irish investment in the U.S. totaled \$34 billion, with an estimated 59,000 Americans employed by Irish firms and 44 greenfield projects since 2003. Ireland has been among the top 15 as a source of foreign direct investment in the U.S., with Irish food processing firms, in particular, expanding their presence.

The range of U.S. exports includes electrical components and equipment, computers and peripherals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, and livestock feed. Irish exports to the United States represent approximately 20% of all Irish exports, and have recently surpassed Irish exports to the UK (inclusive of Northern Ireland) for the first time. Exports to the United States include alcoholic beverages, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, electronic data processing equipment, electrical machinery, textiles, and glassware.

U.S. States: Top 10 Exporters to Ireland (in thousands of USD)

State	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Washington	1,500,065	1,845,578	1,739,768	2,388,012	2,110,585
Minnesota	1,312,268	1,368,208	1,016,715	1,107,870	884,740
California	902,571	997,762	795,300	728,336	720,723
Massachusetts	442,696	447,003	461,480	715,020	549,280
New York	393,548	601,690	544,298	433,127	431,681
New Jersey	126,238	119,226	164,492	241,285	365,538
Texas	217,596	271,481	269,230	263,662	275,524
Ohio	127,933	174,223	198,219	240,618	202,528
Georgia	373,189	237,709	162,321	207,016	185,737
Florida	118,008	127,428	153,998	152,412	181,413
U.S. Total	8,167,193	9,335,663	8,515,992	9,008,852	8,652,873

Washington exports aircraft, spacecraft, industrial machinery, and computers. The aerospace industry is the single most important industry in the state, and The Boeing Company, which was founded in Seattle in 1916, is the state's largest employer. Medical products represent the second largest group of exports.

Minnesota manufactures industrial machinery, including computers and office machines, refrigeration and service machinery, electronics and electric equipment, and precision instruments.

California's leading industries are in the manufacturing of computers and electronic products. Firms in these industries make semiconductors, circuit boards, computer software and hardware, radios and televisions, and telephones, among other products.

Massachusetts primarily exports communications equipment, medical instruments, monitoring devices, industrial machinery, nuclear energy products, and electrical equipment. Other exports include surgical appliances, photographic equipment and supplies, optical instruments, industrial controls, and measurement instruments.

New York's leading manufacturing industries include chemicals, food products, computers and electronic devices, industrial machinery, printing and publishing, fabrication of metal products, and apparel and textiles.

New Jersey is the state's leading industry in the production of chemicals. About one-sixth of all drugs manufactured in the United States come from New Jersey, which has been called "the nation's medicine chest."

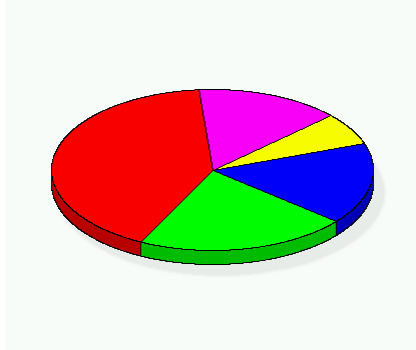
Texas exports industrial chemicals, plastics, computers and electronics, food products, petroleum (refined from crude oil), machinery, and fabricated metals

Ohio is among the nation's leaders in the production of rubber and plastics and as a producer of stone, clay, and glass products. Another important industry is the manufacture of transportation equipment, including motor vehicles and automobile parts, aircraft engines and parts, and motorcycles.

Georgia generally exports transportation equipment, including automobiles and aircraft. Other leading activities are food processing, the production of chemicals, paper and pulp milling, printing and publishing, lumber and wood production, and the manufacture of rubber and plastic items.

Florida exports electrical and electronic equipment, processed foods, printed materials, transportation equipment, chemicals, and industrial machinery.

Summary: Total 2008 Exports from the United States to Ireland



Product	Value (\$)	Percent
88--AIRCRAFT, SPACECRAFT AND PARTS THEREOF	2,349,284,318	27.2 %
84--NUCLEAR REACTORS, BOILERS, MACHINERY ETC; PARTS	1,400,093,061	16.2 %
90--OPTIC, PHOTO ETC, MEDIC OR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS ETC	1,164,028,655	13.5 %
30--PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	816,765,735	9.4 %
All Others	2,922,701,357	33.8 %

2008 Top Exports from the United States to Ireland (in thousands of USD)

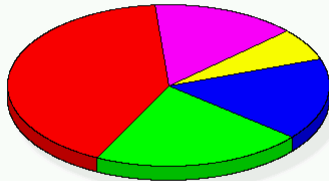
Item	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
88--AIRCRAFT, SPACECRAFT, AND PARTS THEREOF	1,532,967	2,277,053	1,949,180	2,543,119	2,349,284
84--NUCLEAR REACTORS, BOILERS, MACHINERY ETC.; PARTS	1,503,404	1,847,154	1,806,747	1,517,805	1,400,093
90--OPTIC, PHOTO ETC, MEDIC OR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS ETC	1,662,277	1,693,602	1,312,999	1,321,971	1,164,029
30--PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	634,065	687,655	488,215	815,909	816,766
85--ELECTRIC MACHINERY ETC; SOUND EQUIP; TV	1,036,389	936,232	958,442	777,497	715,508
39--PLASTICS AND ARTICLES THEREOF	206,027	231,212	262,208	333,364	335,356
29--ORGANIC CHEMICALS	489,640	432,802	369,447	259,406	322,008
98--SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION	176,143	178,841	171,474	168,194	165,850

PROVISIONS, NESOI					
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Item	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
23--FOOD INDUSTRY RESIDUES & WASTE; PREP ANIMAL FEED	105,924	89,311	108,808	91,099	138,075
38--MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	96,835	108,128	129,664	113,248	128,377
33--ESSENTIAL OILS ETC; PERFUMERY, COSMETIC ETC PREPS	57,943	61,442	75,371	75,332	75,618
76--ALUMINUM AND ARTICLES THEREOF	17,637	24,081	28,191	36,421	75,540
01--LIVE ANIMALS	48,265	52,930	56,772	73,147	67,057
73--ARTICLES OF IRON OR STEEL	37,584	47,736	58,577	56,722	63,813
28--INORG CHEM; PREC & RARE-EARTH MET & RADIOACT COMPD	55,133	60,320	65,641	51,711	49,987
82--TOOLS, CUTLERY ETC. OF BASE METAL & PARTS THEREOF	17,797	29,049	29,297	46,373	48,688
72--IRON AND STEEL	12,320	13,800	9,160	16,377	48,078
27--MINERAL FUEL, OIL ETC.; BITUMIN SUBST; MINERAL WAX	6,942	9,496	17,791	79,520	47,557
44--WOOD AND ARTICLES OF WOOD; WOOD CHARCOAL	33,386	44,484	52,501	53,662	45,357
71--NAT ETC PEARLS, PREC ETC STONES, PR MET ETC; COIN	13,375	25,193	30,275	47,174	43,033
37--PHOTOGRAPHIC OR CINEMATOGRAPHIC GOODS	16,038	15,829	41,611	26,474	40,430
40--RUBBER AND ARTICLES THEREOF	23,441	27,502	34,621	34,684	34,511
10--CEREALS	2,770	324	527	14,819	31,848
87--VEHICLES, EXCEPT RAILWAY OR TRAMWAY	46,827	63,767	35,455	46,047	28,391
81--BASE METALS NESOI; CERMETS; ARTICLES THEREOF	14,542	19,612	14,897	20,257	27,574
94--FURNITURE; BEDDING ETC; LAMPS NESOI ETC; PREFAB BD	16,803	17,639	18,368	22,997	26,592
34--SOAP ETC; WAXES, POLISH ETC; CANDLES;	11,310	14,584	20,624	26,043	24,039

DENTAL PREPS					
Total U.S. Exports to Ireland	8,167,193	9,335,663	8,515,992	9,008,852	8,652,873

Summary: Total 2008 Imports to the United States from Ireland



Product	Value (\$)	Percent
29--ORGANIC CHEMICALS	13,022,500,360	41.3%
30--PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	6,722,992,663	21.3%
90--OPTIC, PHOTO ETC, MEDIC OR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS ETC	5,142,317,182	16.3%
33--ESSENTIAL OILS ETC; PERFUMERY, COSMETIC ETC PREPS	2,060,002,295	6.5%
All Others	4,619,972,112	14.6%

2008 Total Imports to the United States from Ireland (in thousands of USD)

Item	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
29--ORGANIC CHEMICALS	11,831,721	12,328,532	12,414,813	13,543,214	13,022,500
30--PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	5,820,476	6,108,618	5,861,418	6,549,044	6,722,993
90--OPTIC, PHOTO ETC, MEDIC OR SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS ETC	4,469,190	4,133,875	3,863,312	3,924,180	5,142,317
33--ESSENTIAL OILS ETC; PERFUMERY, COSMETIC ETC PREPS	1,722,858	2,076,556	2,066,620	1,992,996	2,060,002
84--NUCLEAR REACTORS, BOILERS, MACHINERY ETC.; PARTS	1,381,490	1,534,553	1,793,872	1,530,126	1,473,979
98--SPECIAL CLASSIFICATION PROVISIONS, NESOI	459,228	503,410	520,021	519,452	726,339
85--ELECTRIC MACHINERY ETC; SOUND EQUIP; TV EQUIP; PTS	377,925	414,130	423,633	725,142	724,506
22--BEVERAGES, SPIRITS AND VINEGAR	309,911	383,934	456,129	465,631	491,104
99--SPECIAL IMPORT PROVISIONS, NESOI	219,795	223,531	227,083	239,969	240,408
71--NAT ETC PEARLS,	87,869	127,577	162,454	168,807	164,503

PREC ETC STONES, PR MET ETC; COIN					
27--MINERAL FUEL, OIL ETC.; BITUMIN SUBST; MINERAL WAX	59,670	75,371	31,914	84,500	148,742

Item	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
39--PLASTICS AND ARTICLES THEREOF	48,666	98,406	107,742	120,655	109,835
35--ALBUMINOIDAL SUBST; MODIFIED STARCH; GLUE; ENZYMES	125,935	157,639	91,277	57,405	93,412
38--MISCELLANEOUS CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	63,059	91,809	66,636	65,642	72,045
04--DAIRY PRODS; BIRDS EGGS; HONEY; ED ANIMAL PR NESOI	41,397	44,547	40,571	44,041	47,012
70--GLASS AND GLASSWARE	77,695	77,160	53,365	55,349	40,733
82--TOOLS, CUTLERY ETC. OF BASE METAL & PARTS THEREOF	42,815	37,190	40,132	34,943	30,012
18--COCOA AND COCOA PREPARATIONS	15,312	20,923	28,886	23,204	29,676
49--PRINTED BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS ETC; MANUSCRIPTS ETC	9,543	13,443	8,348	34,334	29,241
01--LIVE ANIMALS	39,046	45,230	31,863	49,317	29,212
57--CARPETS AND OTHER TEXTILE FLOOR COVERINGS	9,213	17,287	21,282	16,258	16,438
73--ARTICLES OF IRON OR STEEL	11,681	9,234	11,692	11,211	15,014
94--FURNITURE; BEDDING ETC; LAMPS NESOI ETC; PREFAB BD	19,469	17,687	16,668	15,006	12,860
97--WORKS OF ART, COLLECTORS' PIECES AND ANTIQUES	7,153	5,478	6,540	9,193	10,450
88--AIRCRAFT, SPACECRAFT, AND PARTS THEREOF	16,936	12,498	10,434	14,343	9,410
11--MILLING PRODUCTS; MALT; STARCH; INULIN; WHT GLUTEN	4,082	6,166	6,303	9,068	8,442
02--MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL	12,838	12,195	8,788	10,473	8,367

61--APPAREL ARTICLES AND ACCESSORIES, KNIT OR CROCHET	7,705	9,181	8,642	7,918	5,863
Total U.S. Imports from Ireland	27,447,879	28,733,080	28,525,854	30,445,040	31,567,785

Resources & Contacts

[Office of Trade & Industry Information \(OTII\)](http://www.ita.doc.gov/TD/Industry/OTEA/submenu2.html) <<http://www.ita.doc.gov/TD/Industry/OTEA/submenu2.html>>

[The North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/) <<http://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/>>

[U.S. Commercial Service in Ireland](http://www.buyusa.gov/ireland/en/) <<http://www.buyusa.gov/ireland/en/>>

For More Information

The U.S. Commercial Service in Dublin, Ireland can be contacted via e-mail at: Dublin.Office.box@mail.doc.gov; Phone: 353-1-667-4752; Fax: 353-1-667-4754; or visit our website: www.buyusa.gov/ireland.

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